

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

February 10, 2017

Acting Administrator Catherine McCabe
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0202

Dear U.S. EPA Acting Administrator McCabe:


We are writing regarding the proposed rule for the implementation of the 2015 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) ozone nonattainment classification and the State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements. The 2015 rule lowered the parts-per-billion (ppb) threshold to an unrealistic level and will result in harsh, lasting economic impacts in those communities where faulty air quality concerns are raised.

Our offices are closely working with affected stakeholders to try to change the nonattainment designation of Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, under the 2008 and the final 2015 ozone NAAQS rulemaking. The State of Wisconsin and Sheboygan County have installed a second monitor in Sheboygan County that clearly shows that the data from the current EPA monitor (Kohler Andrae ozone monitor, Site ID: 55-117-0006) is measuring emissions from outside of Wisconsin. Unfortunately, we understand that, to date, EPA personnel have been unwilling or unable to revisit the original boundary decisions that largely led to Sheboygan County's faulty nonattainment designation. After meeting with state and regional officials and learning how the county's designation came to be, along with the additional data collected by the second monitor, we feel compelled to share our deep concerns.


We request you direct agency officials to take immediate steps to ensure that Sheboygan County is no longer unfairly classified with an ozone nonattainment designation. Specifically, we find fault with the EPA monitor that is being used for air quality monitoring results and therefore, at the very least, request EPA alter the boundary lines of the Sheboygan nonattainment area in question.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
U.S. Senator



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress